

مكتبة الامم

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Siad Barre in Kuwait

KUWAIT, June 24 (R). — Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre arrived here tonight on the second stop of his tour apparently aimed at seeking more aid from oil-producing countries. The president, who came from the United Arab Emirates, was received at the airport by the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, with whom he will confer during his overnight stay. Officials here said the two leaders are expected to discuss political topics, including the current situation in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East and efforts, so far unsuccessful, to iron out inter-tribal disagreements over Middle East peace moves.

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Parcel bomb used to kill president of North Yemen

ADEN, June 24 (R). — A parcel bomb killed the president of North Yemen this morning during ceremonies linked to a visit by the president of the neighbouring South Yemen, Ali Abdullah Salim. The president was killed by a parcel bomb which exploded when he opened it. The bomb was carried by a man who was also killed. The president was the second president to be assassinated in less than a month in the Red Sea area.

Salem Robaya Ali of South Yemen arrived in Sana'a this morning and was greeted by a representative of President Ghassani. Later, an envoy from the visiting South Yemeni president called on the General Command building in Sana'a. He carried a parcel which exploded when he opened it, killing both the North Yemeni president and the South Yemeni envoy.

The Iraqi News Agency reported that North Yemeni leaders met soon after today's murders and entrusted the duties of head of state to a newly formed presidential council, headed by Qadi Abdul Karim Al Arabi. The new council quickly named Lt.-Col. Ali Al Sheba as Commander in Chief of the armed forces and Ali Abdulla Sa-

U.N. TROOPS DRAW FIRE IN LEBANON

SIDON, South Lebanon, June 24 (R). — Irish troops of the United Nations force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) today came under fire from unidentified gunmen in southern Lebanon. An Irish officer said. He did not mention any casualties, but said the gunmen had earlier been turned back at a U.N. checkpoint in the area. The troops, who had entered Taeh, on the main road to Bint Jbeil, yesterday, took up new positions in the central sector of south Lebanon today. Irish sources said. But talks with rightist militia leaders to facilitate the troops' deployment further north at Edessa were inconclusive, the sources said.

Egypt drafting its own peace plan; Kamel may meet Dayan

CAIRO, June 24 (AP). — Egypt's foreign minister said Saturday that Egypt was drafting a new peace plan and said there was a "possibility" he would meet with Israel's Foreign Minister in London next month.

The announcement carried by Egypt's official Middle East News Agency said the draft plan would be ready within two days and would then be delivered to the United States. President Anwar Sadat met for two hours Saturday with U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts, who delivered a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter and received a reply, the agency said. An official source was also quoted by the agency as confirming reports that U.S. Vice

President Walter Mondale would pay an official visit to Egypt July 3 and "would probably carry a message from Carter to Sadat." U.S. sources in Washington also said Mondale would be visiting Egypt. The rapid-fire announcements were the first indications after months of lethargy that the momentum of the peace process was quickening. Mohammed Ibrahim Kamel, Egypt's Foreign Minister, was quoted as saying the Egyptian peace plan would be based on Sadat's suggestion that the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank return to the control of

Egypt and Jordan. Sadat proposed the idea last month as an alternative to negotiating with Israel for the creation of a Palestinian state in the land seized during the 1967 war -- an idea Israel has rejected. Asked about reports that he and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan would meet in London in July, Kamel was quoted by the Middle East News Agency as saying "it is a possibility." The peace talks, stalled since last January, have been further hampered by Israel's reply to American questions on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Both the U.S. and Egypt expressed regret over the Israeli reply which in effect postponed any decision for at least five years. Mr. Mondale begins a four-day visit to Israel next Thursday for talks with Israeli leaders and to take part in the 30th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Israel. He then flies here for brief talks with Mr. Sadat. Egyptian officials here argue that the return of the West Bank to temporary Jordanian administration could induce Jordan to join the peace talks, so far conducted exclusively between Egypt and Israel. Mr. Mondale's stop-over in Egypt is seen here as stressing President Carter's determination to continue intensified co-

Weizman says he will remain in government

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 24 (AP). — Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, breaking his public silence over his dispute with Prime Minister Menachem Begin, said Friday he would not resign and would continue to fight for a moderate policy in the cabinet. Weizman also said in a television interview a resumption of direct talks with Egypt was possible because he believed Egyptian President Anwar Sadat "is sincere" in his desire for peace. Calls for Weizman's resignation came from Likud Party comrades following an outburst of temper during last week's cabinet debate over Israel's future policy in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Weizman reportedly told some cabinet members that foreign minister Moshe Dayan "is leading you by the nose," and that the government's policy could provoke a new Middle East war. Asked he would quit over the incident, Weizman said, "it is my duty today more than ever to remain in the Defence Ministry" to influence government decisions. Weizman's proposal for a West Bank policy statement, requested by the United States, called for acknowledging that Israel would negotiate the "permanent status" of the disputed zone after a five-year

transition period. Weizman appeared to have a majority of the 19-man cabinet behind him in the first weeks of the debate, but Begin turned the tide towards his own more ambiguous position that would ultimately negotiate over the West Bank's sovereignty. Weizman said Sadat's mild reaction to the Israeli statement of last Sunday "just proves I'm right, that he is sincere." He said his policy was aimed at renewing the direct talks broken off last January, indicating that Dayan and Begin appeared to favour U.S. mediation. "I believe it is still possible to continue the peace process," Weizman said. He brushed aside a suggestion that his dispute with Begin was a power play designed to gain points in the fight as Begin's successor. "It's not a struggle for position, but a struggle for beliefs," he said in a brief interview outside his Tel Aviv home. "I will make every effort that what I believe in will be accepted at least in part by the members of the government." Weizman has avoided public comment since last Sunday. He briefly attended a debate in parliament Monday over the cabinet statement, but refused to speak and pointedly left the hall before the assembly voted to support the policy.

Syrians charge Americans aim to rescue Sadat

DAMASCUS, June 24 (R). — Damascus Radio said today that the latest U.S. effort to resolve the Middle East crisis is aimed at rescuing Egyptian President Anwar Sadat rather than achieving peace. The state-controlled radio apparently referring to a Washington announcement that U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale will meet Egyptian and Israeli leaders within the next ten days to get the stalled peace talks between them going again. "Whatever Washington does to save Sadat, it is doubtful it will achieve any success in tackling the Middle East crisis," the commentary added.

Mr. Mondale begins a four-day visit to Israel next Thursday for talks with Israeli leaders and to take part in the 30th anniversary celebrations of the founding of Israel. He then flies here for brief talks with Mr. Sadat. Egyptian officials here argue that the return of the West Bank to temporary Jordanian administration could induce Jordan to join the peace talks, so far conducted exclusively between Egypt and Israel. Mr. Mondale's stop-over in Egypt is seen here as stressing President Carter's determination to continue intensified co-

At the same time, Israel maintains a military mission in Egypt, a leftover from the military committee talks earlier this year. The nine-man delegation is regularly changed and last Monday a new team headed by Col. Yacov Heychal left by direct flight from an Egyptian military camp near Alexandria, the sources said.

Gemayel offers self for Lebanese peace

BEIRUT, June 24 (Agencies). — A rightwing political party leader offered his life Saturday in exchange for peace between warring rightist factions in Lebanon. The offer was made by 73-year-old Pierre Gemayel, leader of the Phalangist Party, whose members were accused of killing Tony Frangieh, the son of former President Suleiman Frangieh, and Tony's wife and daughter on June 13 at their mountain resort of Ehden. The elder Frangieh, who heads the "giants" Christian militia gave Phalangists a 17-day ultimatum, expiring June 30, to either quit the party or leave the whole region of Zgharta in north Lebanon. Zgharta, 110 kms. north of Beirut, is the hometown and power base of the Frangieh clan. The ultimatum sparked fears that Frangieh planned to declare a war against the Phalangist Party next month to avenge his son and 38 other followers killed in the Ehden assault. Pope Paul VI and other religious and political leaders are trying to head off a collision between the two sides. "I told mediators that instead of seeking me out to kill me, I am ready to go to Zgharta myself and tell them there: 'Kill me if this would settle the conflict and end vendetta.' I offer this as a solution," said Gemayel in an interview published by the independent Beirut magazine Usbu Al Arabi.

There was no immediate response to the offer from the Frangiehs. Meanwhile, U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim today sent a senior aide to the Middle East to try to strengthen the hand of U.N. peace-keeping forces in southern Lebanon. Diplomatic sources at the U.N. said James Jonah will try to work out arrangements for the deployment of U.N. troops in areas where they are barred despite the Israeli pullout. The official announcement said Dr. Jonah, a director in the Office of the Under-Secretaries General for special Political Affairs, would "review current matters relating to the operation UNIFIL" -- the United Nations force in Lebanon. Dr. Jonah will confer with representatives of governments and other parties directly concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Diplomatic sources said he would not deal directly with the Lebanese Christian militia but only with the government of Lebanon. He will also see Israeli officials and the U.N. commanders. Dr. Jonah of Sierra Leone must report back to Mr. Waldheim next week.



Unidentified man walks with two children as a guard from the Baja California Penitentiary looks on in the courtyard of the La Mesa prison where at least five persons were held Friday in a gunfight. Many prisoners who were not involved in the fighting lie on the ground in the courtyard. (AP wirephoto)

Dr Hisham Sharabi interviewed

Arab-American leader says collective action must replace Sadat initiative

By Ian Kellas
ist to the Jordan Times
AN, June 24 — The president of the group which claims to represent 2 million Americans, has said that Sadat must give up unilateral negotiations with Israel. Dr. Hisham Sharabi, president of the National Association of Arab Americans, told the Jordan Times that the Jordanian President's visit to Jerusalem had been "crucial and absolutely crucial". The Egyptian president had shown that the Arabs want peace, he said. He had also shown that the Israelis do not want it. Without Sadat, we would have seen a naked Beg-Dr. Sharabi said. The only way forward, Dr. Sharabi believes, is collective Arab action. Although he insists that must give up his per-Dr. Sharabi said. The only way forward, Dr. Sharabi believes, is collective Arab action. Although he insists that must give up his per-

they have a great many things going for them at the moment. "The Israelis are cornered," and there is American and international consensus, he said, on the terms which should govern peace. These are: Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories and self-determination for the Palestinians. What is required now is for the "concerned Arab states" to say collectively what they have been saying individually and to insist on these terms. Unless this happens, the United States may fail to put the necessary pressure on Israel. "Israel can only be moved by the Americans," Dr. Sharabi said. If the Israeli government attempted to ignore the U.S. and survive without its support, "there would be forces in Israel that would rise against Begin," he continued. Following Israel's answers to the U.S. questions, "the ball is squarely in the American side of the court -- and they know it," Dr. Sharabi said. "The U.S. cannot continue to subsidise Israeli conquest." Dr. Sharabi feels that it is now possible for the Arabs to confront the U.S. with one voice. "The Egyptians, the Saudis, the Jordanians, the Syrians and the Palestinians all want peace," he said -- "they want it badly."

Dr. Sharabi feels that it is wishful thinking to suppose that President Nimeiry of the Sudan will be able to unite all the Arab nations at a summit conference. But he does feel it is possible that following the failure of this approach, a smaller summit would be convened of those Arabs who really need peace. "It is crucial," he said "that the core Arab states should get together as they did to deal with the Lebanese crisis in Riyadh in 1977 -- that was the decisive move. The Saudi Arabians can do it again." Dr. Sharabi said. They could reconcile the four main parties: Syria, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The way would then be open to a reconvening of the Geneva conference. "The Soviet Union must have a major part to play," Dr. Sharabi said. "This is why the concept of Geneva is still sound." Unless the U.S. acts rapidly, Dr. Sharabi believes, the administration will get tangled up with SALT negotiations, with Africa and then with the November elections. If this chance is not seized, the next opportunity will not come around again until 1980 or 1981. "And Israel would like nothing better than this," Dr. Sharabi added. He believes that the Americans are now sending out

clear signals that they are working back towards Geneva. While he holds strong reservations about America's ultimate determination to bring about a truly just solution to the Middle East problem, Dr. Sharabi sees evidence of a massive shift in American public opinion in favour of the Arabs which will eventually have its impact on decision making. The growth of the NAAA is one sign of this. The establishment of the association in 1972 was witness to a "total transformation in Arab-American consciousness," Dr. Sharabi said. "Before that Arab-Americans wanted to be lost in the American melting pot." Ninety-five per cent of Arab-Americans, Dr. Sharabi estimates, are of Lebanese origin. Most emigrated to the United States to escape Ottoman rule at around the beginning of the century, and continued for some time to suffer from a "profound inferiority complex" within American society. Since World War Two however there has been a shift in attitude, as Arab-Americans as well as the Arab states themselves have risen in importance and prosperity. The "ethnicity" movement in the U.S. which led people to look back to their original cultures helped the rise in Arab consciousness in the States,

But the "decisive turning point," according to Dr. Sharabi, was the 1973 oil embargo. As for the non-Arab American public, the major event has been President Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. However much Sadat's image has been tarnished since then, Dr. Sharabi believed that he has left an "indelible" mark on American public opinion. "For 30 years Israel has been the beleaguered Western frontier state, the David facing Goliath, the little country of laughing children. On the other side has been the cruel, underdeveloped Arab, not viewed as an individual but as these vast hordes, surrounding Israel and bent on its destruction," he said. "To have that image change," Dr. Sharabi went on, "is a tremendous achievement, ... and one which Arab people here under-rate." At the same time, Dr. Sharabi does not attempt to play down the strength of the Israeli lobby. "In most constituencies he said, "there are very small very active and financially very generous" lobbies of pro-Israelis, who maintain an extraordinarily powerful grip on politics. "Only if non-Jews change their perception can they break this hold," Dr. Sharabi said.

Qadhafi meets with leaders of Hungary

BUDAPEST, June 24 (R). — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi, on an official tour of Soviet Bloc capitals, today reviewed international issues with Hungarian Communist Party leader Janos Kadar. The Hungarian MTI news agency said the two leaders briefed each other on the state of their own countries and discussed ways of multiplying economic links, particularly in armaments and industry. The talks were also attended by Hungarian President Pal Losonczi and ministers from both sides responsible for foreign trade, agriculture and industry. At a dinner for the visiting Libyan delegation last night, President Losonczi praised Col. Qadhafi as "a vanguard of anti-imperialist forces of the Arab World and Africa." Col. Qadhafi, who arrived here yesterday after stops in Sofia and Prague, replied that progressive movements in Africa must band together to thwart imperialist manoeuvres endangering peace in the region. The Libyan leader is due to leave Hungary on Monday for his first official visit to East Germany.

CHINESE OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT, June 24 (R). — Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Ho Ying arrived here today for talks with Kuwaiti leaders on bilateral relations and regional issues. During his three-day visit, Mr. Ho was due to meet the Emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Firepower display backs Carter call to Soviet Union

HOUSTON, Texas, June 24 (R). — The U.S. Army today assembled 3,000 troops, along with tanks, missiles, planes and artillery, for a firepower display to be watched by visiting President Carter. The demonstration was planned as the final event in a two-day visit to Texas during which Mr. Carter has declared that he would not allow the U.S. to be pushed around by the Soviet Union. The White House said the \$2.5 million show was necessary for the president's appraisal of U.S. defence capabilities. The display marks Mr. Carter's first inspection of an army base since he took office 17 months ago, although he has inspected air force and naval units. In a speech yesterday, he

told the Soviet Union and Cuba to stop attacking his security advisers, Zbigniew Brzezinski, widely viewed as an advocate of hardline policies towards the Russians. Last night, the president made an urgent appeal for congressional action on his stalled energy programme, saying the U.S. was losing influence, prestige and world leadership because of its ever-rising energy consumption. "We are embarrassed in the eyes of our friends and weakened in the eyes of our enemies," he said. Mr. Carter said continued inaction on energy might further weaken the U.S. dollar overseas, jeopardise the fight against inflation at home, and arouse sentiment for trade protectionism against Americans.

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A trip Mr. Mondale will not relish

One has to give the Americans credit for their persistence in trying to keep alive the peace initiative of President Sadat, but it is rather sad to note that persistence alone does not guarantee success, and in this case it is a weak substitute for progress. But one cannot tell the Americans to give up their efforts, and thus the upcoming Middle East trip of U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale and the planned meeting in London between the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers, under American aegis, has to be given at least tacit support. It is difficult to see what will come out of this latest round of mediation by the Americans, because the Israelis have flatly rejected all rational proposals for peace and security put forward by the Arabs, the Americans and everybody else in the world who has thought about the matter for more than five minutes. Yet again, it is the Americans who are putting themselves in a difficult position, because it is they -- not the Israelis -- who are viewed by most of the world as the key party with the potential ability to prod the stalled Middle East peace negotiations. The Israelis so far have made a mockery of that principle, and one thinks that the Americans must be reaching the limit of their already abundant patience.

It would be an exercise in futility to expect the Americans to step forward now with their own proposals -- not because they would not do so, but rather because it is clear that whatever the Americans suggest the Israelis will quickly reject and ridicule. How the United States has gotten itself into the awkward position of being unable to control the actions of its own client state of Israel is difficult to grasp, but it is the reality of the situation nevertheless. Mr. Mondale will discover that to his discomfort very soon. It is a reality that is not pleasant, and one that no rational person would wish for. But it is the reality of the day, and the United States has yet to show that it is willing or able to deal with it constructively.

Arab-American leader says collective Arab action must replace Sadat initiative

(Continued from page 1)

The Israeli lobby is strengthened by the racism that Dr. Sharabi feels is "deeply embedded" in the unconscious of Western society. He believes that it is not only anti-Arab prejudices that work in Israel's favours but also, paradoxically, anti-Semitism. To give the Jews a powerful state "is one way of getting them off your back," Dr. Sharabi said.

The Israeli lobby has the added strength that after 1967, "90 to 95 per cent of all Jews in the U.S. fell under the leadership of the Zionist movement, became plugged into Israel. 'Does that sound wild to you ...?' Dr. Sharabi asked. 'It isn't'.

"The (U.S.) administration is not unhappy that this lobby exists," Dr. Sharabi went on. "It can use it to justify positions that would be totally unacceptable from the Arab point of view. I do not think that any American politician is interested in opposing Zionist or Jewish forces in any fundamental way," Dr. Sharabi said.

"Most American leaders would want to keep Israel overwhelmingly more powerful than its Arab neighbours. Most are sincere in their perception that Israel is a Western outpost in a vitally important region for the U.S. -- that Israel is ultimately a guardian of American interests in this region."

"When we say vital interests," Dr. Sharabi added "we mean the oil fields." On top of this, Dr. Sharabi said, "most American leaders have no real understanding or liking for the Arabs, or trust in the Arabs."

Dr. Sharabi, however, later qualified these remarks by saying that "despite all our fr-



Dr. Hisham Sharabi

ustrations, we must recognise that this is the first (American) administration that has gone so far. It is too early to make final judgements about the real intentions and determination of Mr. Carter."

According to Dr. Sharabi, significance of the recent U.S. sales decision not that it was the result of successful Arab lobbying, but that the American administration had taken the Israeli lobby head on, and won.

Dr. Sharabi claims that his own association, the NAAA, played a "modest part" in the arms sales victory, and also an "important part" in getting the Israelis to withdraw from Lebanon. The association has filed a suit against Cyrus Vance and the U.S. administration for failure to act to stop Israeli violations of the U.S. Arms Export Control Act.

At the beginning of July, the U.S. government must answer these charges in court. The NAAA would then have to decide whether it could afford the enormous legal expense of pursuing the case.

The association, Dr. Sharabi explained, works with a budget of around \$250,000 a year, and gets no support from Arab governments or foreign agencies. "We are an American group -- that is our power," he said.

Actual lobbying is a minor part of the association's activities, according to Dr. Sharabi. The NAAA, he said also provides backing for sympathetic politicians at all levels. The association aims to at-

tack stereotyped images of Arabs as they appear in the media and school textbooks. "Once we get a really juicy piece" of prejudice, Dr. Sharabi said, the association would pounce with legal action.

The NAAA, he said, also tries to encourage Arab culture and has sponsored tours of Arab folk troupes -- like the one from Jordan which visited the U.S. recently. "They leave a profound impact," he said.

Arab-Americans should be able to profit from the wealth of the Arab World, Dr. Sharabi feels. With a view to this, the association is drawing up a professional and business register of its members who would have services to offer in the Arab World. There is also a project to set up some kind of an Arab-American company, whose profits would go to the Arab community in the U.S.

Asked about other Arab lobbies in America, Dr. Sharabi said the recently opened PLO office could have practically no impact "in its present shape."

"It is just a Palestinian information office -- more symbolic than anything else." Dr. Sharabi did not seem to attach much importance to the role played by American representatives of the Saudi Arabian government in the battle leading up to the arms sale decision.

"Arab embassies," he went on "reflect the paralysis that their governments find themselves in." Asked in conclusion whether he was optimistic about the

general outlook, Dr. Sharabi replied: "I hope I am optimistic. But I am not thinking in those terms. The feeling that I would express is one of outrage and anger. The Arab side is leaving the initiative and basic moves to the two other parties in the triangle."

If only the Arabs could formulate a collective demand for Israeli withdrawal and Palestinian self-determination, they would have the support of the U.S., Dr. Sharabi believes. His general thesis indeed appeared to be that there was no alternative for the Arabs but to go on working through the U.S. This is a position which Dr. Sharabi regrets, because, deprived of the military option, the Arabs are compelled to negotiate from a position of comparative inferiority.

Asked whether he thought that war was out of the question, Dr. Sharabi said that while the Arabs knew that it would be suicidal to attack Israel at the moment, "there is a definite possibility that Israel will strike." This he said is "conceivable, not probable", but it is a possibility that cannot be excluded.

"Israel is isolated now," Dr. Sharabi said. And it is possible to conceive of a situation in which "U.S. and world pressure would make it feel so trapped as to make the military option attractive."

There are only two places where Israel would strike, Dr. Sharabi said: -- Syria or Jordan -- and its aim might well be to bring the oil fields directly under its guns. "Look at the map," he said, "if they occupied Jordan all the eastern oil fields would be within range."



"We must find the ways and methods so that we can live together" (Gen. Weizman June 21)

WHAT'S GOING ON

Photo Exhibit

The photo exhibit by Ann Wiegand continues till Monday, June 26, at the Palace of Culture lobby. Open from 10:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

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ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

In its editorial Saturday Al RA'I expressed suspicion about the policy which Israeli Defence Minister Tzer Weizman during recent meetings with West Bank mayors, said he intends to pursue in the occupied Arab territories.

It says Mr. Weizman's step comes after his reported renunciation of Israeli Premier Menachem Begin's policy and his declaration that he will be devoting his time to preparing the Israeli army for the next war.

Al RA'I notes that Mr. Weizman started his policy with a large amount of liberalism when he -- to the astonishment of the Palestinian people -- gave West Bank leaders a free hand in their own affairs. But the suspicious aspect of his policy is that he seems to be acting independently of Mr. Begin's government which, in its recent reply to the American questions, seems more insistent than ever on keeping the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Also, Mr. Weizman has expressed his complete opposition to the Begin government's reply to the American questions.

Thus Mr. Weizman's "game" in the West Bank, although it indicates possible acceptance by Israel of the application of the Geneva Accord of 1949 on occupied territories, appears to be more dangerous than any previous Israeli policy. It is an open policy designed to mislead world opinion and take away the Palestinian's trump card in the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The newspaper also thinks that Mr. Weizman's policy is likely to be a new manoeuvre to drive a wedge between West Bankers and the rest of the Arab World by offering the first a choice between Arabs and Jews.

On its part AL DUSTOUR thinks that July will witness some sharp pressure being put on Israel by the United States in an attempt to get the Egyptian-Israeli peace negotiations moving again. But the newspaper thinks the expected American pressure, although its extent is not yet known, might be nullified by counter-pressure from the Zionist lobby in the White House.

In his opinion column in Al RA'I Saturday Jum'a Hammad says that Israel did not really withdraw from South Lebanon, although its troops left the area. The troops only left, he says, after handing over to pro-Israeli elements in the area. Mr. Hammad recalls that Israel's standing policy is for the disintegration of Lebanon and the creation of Lebanese mini-states on its northern borders. "Therefore," he adds, "we tend to believe Syrian Defence Minister Gen. Mustafa Tlass when he charges that certain dubious Lebanese factions are trying to enforce the disintegration scheme in preparation for the division of the country." People like Majors Haddad and Shidyaq are only advance guards paving the way, Mr. Hammad says.

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2. Restaurant, 300-seat and visitor's facilities at Jarash.
3. Construction of flood control structures, water supply and sewerage system and electric power lighting at Petra.
4. Installation of sound and light programmes at Jarash.

Bid documents will be ready by the end of July 1978. The construction works should be completed within a period of 18 months from the date of signing the contract.

Local general contractors registered at the Ministry of Public Works as 1st class contractors in addition to foreign contractors are invited to submit their qualifications to the following address: --

Tourism Project Director
(Petra and Jarash Development Plan)
P.O. Box 5403 (Jabal Amman-Third Circle)
Amman -- Jordan.

Copies of the tender will be sent to selected companies only.

The closing date for accepting the pre-qualifications is at 12 noon on Monday, August 1978.

Minister of Tourism and Antiquities
Tourism Project

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

Satellites may bridge geographical barriers to bring modern health care to remote areas

By Rowan Shirkie
Of the International Development Research Centre,
Ottawa.

OTTAWA, (F.T.) - The child was sick with chickenpox, pneumonia, and high fever. The nurse at the remote health outpost was worried and wanted to know if the child should be taken by airplane to a regional hospital, 200 rugged travelling miles away, but could not get through radio interference to reach the hospital.

Then she turned to the new recently installed equipment, which could make the necessary communication link via a satellite orbiting 22,300 miles above the earth. Contact. A brief consultation with a doctor at the hospital showed that there was nothing to be gained in subjecting the child to a discomforting plane trip, and confirmed that the treatment being given by the nurse was correct and sufficient.

The incident took place in a remote area of northern Canada, during a telemedicine experiment. Telemedicine—literally, medicine over distance—is the use of telecommunications channels such as radio, television, telephone and satellite to deliver health care.

A few years from now, the scene might be acted out in any of a number of developing countries that share the same sort of problems as Canada in delivering health services to a population scattered over a large area.

Satellite age

With the launch of Russia's Sputnik in 1957, satellites ushered in a new age for communications, largely eliminating barriers of distance and geography. Some experts now believe that satellites can have the same sort of impact on medicine, at least in the areas of primary care and medical education.

As technology has advanced in the 21 years since that first launch, it has been possible to move from

For countries with widely-scattered populations, communications can mean the difference between life or death. Satellites are among the means of bringing sophisticated health care to the most remote, backward communities.

complex, expensive ground receiving stations to sturdy, readily portable terminals as small as one metre in diameter. Satellites such as Hermes (or CTS for Communications Technology Satellite), a joint Canada-U.S.A. venture launched in early 1976, are ten to 20 times more powerful than any previous space communications device. Thus, without involving complex equipment that requires technical experts to operate, reliable communications can be provided at the village level.

Applications

Besides telemedicine applications, this new generation of satellites can bring a variety of social services within reach. Experiments with educational television (notably India's recent Satellite Instructional Technology Experiment), interactive broad-

casting, and transmission of newspaper facsimiles point the way communications may develop. Telemedicine is perhaps one of the most immediately beneficial applications of communications satellites. The ability to provide health care over distance, regardless of terrain or remoteness from centralized facilities, can help correct the lopsided distribution of medical resources in developing countries, now largely concentrated in urban centres and away from the majority of the population in need.

Often medical communications in rural areas are limited to persons passing through by vehicle (or by foot or animal in very remote and inaccessible areas). The level of care in these areas is limited to what the local health worker can provide on his own.

often with poor equipment and inadequate supplies, and little or no advice from supervisory trained medical personnel. At the same time, the local health worker has few possibilities for continuing education or advancement in the job. Vital statistics go unreported, further confusing the understanding of the health levels of populations. And in an emergency or epidemic many will suffer because of the delay in communicating the information or treatment needed to take action.

The educational applications of a telemedicine system could allow a practitioner to remain in the field while continuing his training, whether it be updating his knowledge of professional procedures or new drugs, conducting a cross-country seminar on particular medical problems, or holding "university of the air" sessions for health workers.

Two-way radios for emergency medical communications are becoming more common in developing countries, but technological, economic, and administrative difficulties continue to restrict their widespread use. The two-way radio becomes more versatile and valuable when there are enough relaying or broadcasting stations to form a network.

Instant network

Satellites provide an instant network as they do not depend on the ground structure of land lines or microwave towers to reach from cities to rural areas. The World Health Organisation, as

for health programme, has assigned high priority to the need for communications for the health sector. It specifically suggests two-way radio and satellite communications as alternatives that developing countries might follow.

The economies seem right, especially compared to the expense of expanding (or establishing) land-based communications systems. The benefits are particularly great when service must be provided to a population scattered over a large area, isolated by harsh terrain or distance.

Indonesia, with its people spread throughout some 3,000 islands within several million square kilometres of the Pacific Ocean, has its own domestic satellite. Algeria, Brazil, and Malaysia operate their domestic satellite systems through INTELSAT (the International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium) whose network includes 91 countries. Chile, Nigeria, the Philippines, and Zaïre are planning domestic telecommunications systems using satellites.

Health care via satellite may never become as commonplace as the use of a stethoscope, nor as comforting as the "laying on of hands" by a human health worker. But in the search for ways to provide improved health services to the most people at the least cost telemedicine may play an increasingly important role in the future.

FINANCIAL TIMES
NEWS-FEATURES

Hamburg teenagers plan computer traffic signals



As part of this year's youth research competition, a contest in which prizes have been awarded annually since 1966, three Hamburg teenagers (photo) designed traffic lights with a mind of their own -- a miniature process computer which registers traffic density and adjusts light settings at the intersection or crossroads. Main roads are given the green light longer, thereby saving nerves, conserving the environment and saving fuel. This invention won the Bonn Economic Affairs Ministry's special award and interest has been shown by Nixdorf, a leading computer manufacturer in the Federal Republic of Germany. (Dad photo).

Pioneer mission to uncover Venusian secrets



Drawing shows the Pioneer Multiprobe (left) and Orbiter approaching Venus to carry out detailed investigations of the shrouded planet in late 1978. The Orbiter, launched in May, is scheduled to relay daily pictures back to earth of the Venusian cloud cover from which radar maps of the surface are to be made. The Multiprobe, to be launched around August 7, will split into five entry craft some 12 million kilometers away and enter the atmosphere of the planet in early December. Measurements of the composition of the atmosphere are to be relayed until the craft burn up from frictional heating. The project is managed by the Ames Research Centre in Mountain View, California. (IPS photo).

Observers feel Bangladesh now has good chance to get out of "basket case" status

By Denis D. Gray

DACCA, Bangladesh (AP). — Gen. Zia Rahman, having emerged as a strong and popular leader, must now forge what observers say will be a difficult transition from martial law to democracy and a blueprint for getting one of the world's poorest nations away from the edge of economic and social disaster.

Gen. Zia, talking to reporters shortly after his landslide presidential victory earlier this month, called on foreign friends, especially in the West, to "give us a big push" towards an economic take-off and away from dependence on aid hand-outs.

Bangladesh already receives between \$800 million and \$1 billion a year in aid, about a third of it from the United States. This is more than the country can absorb and there is currently between \$1.3b. and \$1.5b. backed up in the aid "pipeline".

Reforms needed

United Nations and diplomatic sources here almost unanimously stress that rather than even bigger hunks of aid, the Dacca government urgently ne-

eds tough reforms, especially in land distribution, rural development and within the government's shaky bureaucracy.

Backers of President Zia and a number of officials in the foreign community here say Bangladesh probably now has a better chance than ever in its seven-year history to move out of its "international basket-case" status.

The 42-year-old head of state, a hero of the 1971 war which saw the birth of Bangladesh, has through a combination of luck, dedication and martial law decrees provided a degree of stability and welfare unknown before he seized power in a 1975 military coup.

A series of good harvests have allowed the stockpiling of nearly one million tons of food grains in a country where the line between starvation and survival has often been very thin.

Internationally, Bangladesh has maintained good relations with the world's superpowers and improved those with neighbouring India and Pakistan.

Political future

Gen. Zia, having to date kept his promises about gradually restoring democracy, has announced parliamentary elections for this December. But a number of unanswered questions remain about the country's immediate political future.

Will Zia's six-party National Front stick together through the elections or will Zia be forced to look around for another base of support? How will the remaining martial law structure be dismantled? Would Zia clamp down again if political violence returned with a free and open system or if someone in the army -- the traditional coup-maker in Bangladesh -- was tempted to lunge for power?

Besides trying to manoeuvre himself into power through a democratic process, a number of Gen Zia's critics as well as some middle-of-the-road observers say he must also rectify a past failure to come up with a comprehensive plan for the country's development. Gen Zia's efforts to date have been largely confined to calls for self-reliance and frequent trips to the countryside to urge people -- in the words of one U.S. diplomat -- "to get off their backsides."

One newspaper publisher who also fought in the 1971 war of independence likened Gen. Zia

to a battlefield commander adept at taking one enemy position at a time but without the commanding general's overall strategic grasp needed to win a war.

New war

That war, the reports of foreign aid agencies all say, must be fought and won in the countryside where more than 90 per cent of the population lives and which is beset by a host of problems. These include illiteracy (78 per cent country-wide), malnutrition (more than 60 per cent of families), poor health (about 90 per cent of people never see a doctor in their lives) and sheer poverty (per capita annual income of less than \$100).

Recent reports and interviews with aid and diplomatic officials indicate some apparently serious weaknesses in the Dacca government's efforts at development.

A controversial study written late last year for the U.S. Agency for International Development says more than half the rural population is now landless and that there is "every indication that the number of landless and near landless is growing."

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GENERAL TENDENCIES: A good day for you to adopt the right school of thought that will improve the quality of your life. Inspired ideas now can fulfill your most cherished ambitions.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Tap your subconscious and know what high type of philosophy you want to follow in the future. Try to talk less and to listen more.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Getting together with fine friends and deepening relationships is wise today. Study how to gain your goals.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be very tactful in dealing with important personalities today or you could get yourself into a heap of trouble.

MOONCHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take steps to improve the quality of your life. Make new contacts whose ideas are pretty much like your own.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Do some conscientious thinking and get on a high plane of existence, where you belong. Express a happy feeling.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Have discussions with close ties and plan how to have more success in the future. Sidestep a false friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Good day to improve your health so that the coming work week will be more successful. Be more careful of your diet.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make arrangements for amusements that will relieve tenseness you are under. Be sure not to spend too much money.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Take the time to study your true financial status and figure out ways to improve it. Try not to be so sensitive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to study new outlets that could bring benefits and satisfaction in the future. Safeguard harmony at home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your assets and know good judgment where finances are concerned. Avoid one who can be detrimental to your progress.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Ideal day to enjoy the company of friends. Be more poised and reach a better understanding with the one you love.

World Football Cup

Italy, Brazil must battle for 3rd place

BUENOS AIRES, June 24 (R). — Italy and Brazil today set the scene for tomorrow's World Cup final when they play for third place in the competition, a poor consolation for the two soccer giants who are more accustomed to occupying the limelight themselves.

The two nations have won five of the last ten World Cups between them and are bitterly disappointed not to reach this year's final after coming so close.

The places Brazil and Italy think should be theirs will be occupied by Holland and Argentina, neither of whom have ever won soccer's greatest prize before. They will fight out the final in the electric atmosphere of Buenos Aires' River Plate Stadium on Sunday, watched by 80,000 spectators and a world television audience of 1.5 billion.

Supporters of Brazil and Italy think their teams should be playing in the River Plate tomorrow and not today and say the third place match is the "real" final. But the greatest problem for the two nations will be to recover their morale and motivation enough to give a display to satisfy the demanding public at home.

There is heavy gloom in the Italian camp and manager Enzo Bearzot has bitterly accused the Dutch of using systematic violence to throw Italy off their stride to win their crucial second round match 2-1.

But Mr. Bearzot has said beating mighty Brazil would be a great achievement in itself and his players will do their duty tomorrow. Both Mr. Bearzot and the players agree third place would certainly be better than fourth.

Both the match for third place is traditionally a tepid affair compared with the final. Tomorrow, both Argentina and Holland will be attempting to win the Cup for the first time.

Both teams have injury worries, but Argentina's look more serious as it could result in the absence of Osvaldo Ardiles, one of the most gifted midfield players in the tournament.

Mr. Ardiles sprained an ankle in the match against Brazil and missed the game against Peru. Manager Cesar Menotti said he was still hoping that Mr. Ardiles would be fit, but the likelihood is that Omar Larrosa, Mr. Ardiles' understudy against Peru, will continue.

Otherwise Argentina will be at full strength with Leopoldo Luque and Mario Kempes, scorers of eight of their team's 12 goals, carrying the nation's hopes.

Holland's fitness doubt concerns goalkeeper Piet Schrijvers, who was injured in the game against Italy when he was accidentally kicked on the knee by teammate Erny Brandts who was trying to prevent the first Italian goal.

The match is expected to be full of attacking football as both teams have shown a refreshing appetite for goals during the qualifying competition. They are the top-scoring teams in the tournament, Holland having scored 14 goals and Argentina 12.

Holland, motivated by fit-again Johan Neeskens in midfield, have shown their ability to score match-winning goals with long range shots and will give the Argentines plenty of problems with their "total football" in which players are interchangeable and there are few fixed positions.

Argentina play a more orthodox game with Daniel Passarella, captain and sweeper, driving the team from the back. Like Holland, Argentina can expect goals from almost any player. Six players from either side have already found a place on the scoring list.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Boston continues "red-hot" streak

NEW YORK, June 24 (AP). — Boston's red-hot Red Sox continued their sizzling play and Philadelphia swept into first place in the National League East last night.

The Red Sox, leaders in the American League East, posted their 12th victory in the past 14 games and 31st in 37 games at home, beating Jim Palmer and the Baltimore Orioles 5-2. The Red Sox, increasing their division lead to 7 1/2 games, ended Mr. Palmer's seven-game winning streak with the help of Carlton Fisk's three-run homer and Bill Lee's eight-hit pitching.

Elsewhere in the American League, the New York Yankees moved into a second-place tie with Baltimore in the East, routing the Detroit Tigers 12-3. Chris Chambliss hit a grand slam homer, Roy White cracked a three-run homer and Paul Blair rapped a three-run double for the Yankees.

The Seattle Mariners tied their club record of five straight victories, downing the Milwaukee Brewers 3-0 behind the four-hit pitching of Glenn Abbott.

Gary Alexander and Jim Norris each drove in three runs and Rick Waits spaced seven hits as the Cleveland Indians defeated the Toronto Blue Jays 8-3.

Craig Kusick's tie-breaking homer in the ninth inning gave the Minnesota Twins a 2-1 victory over the Chicago White Sox.

George Brett knocked in three runs with a triple and a double as the Kansas City Royals defeated the Oakland A's 5-3 in the first game of a doubleheader.

The A's gained a split, winning the second game 5-4. In the National League, the Phillies beat Chicago twice by 6-1 scores and moved into first place in the East, two percentage points ahead of the

Cubs. Dick Ruthven and Tug McGraw combined for a six-hitter in the opener and Jim Lonzborg and Mr. McGraw collaborated on a six-hitter in the nightcap.

Jerry Martin and Garry Maddox homered in the first game for the Phils and Mike Schmidt and Bake McBride each knocked in two runs in the second game.

Major league baseball results and standings after Friday's games:

NATIONAL LEAGUE:

EAST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Philadelphia	34	29	.540	—
Chicago	35	30	.538	—
Montreal	35	34	.507	2
Pittsburgh	30	34	.469	4 1/2
New York	31	40	.437	7
St. Louis	25	44	.362	12
WEST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
San Francisco	43	24	.642	—
Cincinnati	42	27	.609	2
Los Angeles	38	30	.559	5 1/2
Houston	30	34	.469	11 1/2
San Diego	31	37	.456	12 1/2
Atlanta	27	38	.415	15

Friday's games:
Philadelphia 6-6, Chicago 1-1
New York 3, Pittsburgh 2, 11 innings
St. Louis 8, Montreal 4
San Diego 3, Houston 0
Los Angeles 1, Cincinnati 0
San Francisco 9, Atlanta 0

AMERICAN LEAGUE:

EAST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Boston	48	21	.696	—
Baltimore	40	28	.588	7 1/2
New York	40	28	.588	7 1/2
Milwaukee	38	30	.559	9 1/2
Detroit	33	33	.500	13 1/2
Cleveland	29	36	.444	17
Toronto	21	45	.318	25 1/2
WEST:	W	L	PCT.	GB
Kansas City	36	31	.537	—
Texas	36	32	.529	1
California	36	33	.522	1 1/2
Oakland	34	36	.486	3 1/2
Chicago	31	36	.463	5
Minnesota	28	38	.424	7 1/2
Seattle	24	47	.338	14

Friday's games:
Kansas City 5-4, Oakland 3-5
Texas 7-8, California 0-4
Cleveland 8, Toronto 3
Boston 5, Baltimore 2
New York 12, Detroit 3
Minnesota 2, Chicago 1
Seattle 3, Milwaukee 0.

WEEKLY WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK, June 24 (AP). — Just a few weeks ago, the arrival of higher interest rates was being greeted with unusual enthusiasm on Wall Street.

But traditional fears over tight credit have surfaced again as stock prices have begun to slip.

Rising interest rates are supposed to mean falling stock and bond prices as investors attempt to increase yields on their securities. But this spring, stock prices were rising as interest rates climbed.

The higher rates were said to be good news because they would help check inflation. The rising cost of money in the short-run would be outweighed by the slowdown in cost-of-living gains, the optimists said.

"Now you throw the same news out and the market falls apart," commented Larry Wachtel at Bache Halsey Stuart Shields.

The interest-rate rise was in part attributable to Federal Res-

erve action. The FED, fearful that the growth of the nation's money supply over the past 15 months was exceeding its targets, has been tightening credit as its contribution to the fight against inflation.

According to David Jones at A. G. Lunt and Co. Inc., that policy should be continuing. In the past week, the FED let the key target rate of "federal funds," the name for loans among banks, move up 1/4 point to 7 3/4 per cent. "They might wait a week or two before considering pushing it up to 8 per cent. They're going to let the dust settle a bit," he said.

In addition, the spread between the discount rate -- the FED's charge on short-term "emergency" loans to member banks -- and the federal funds rate has widened to 3/4 of a percentage point.

"At 7 per cent, loans at the 'discount window' are mushrooming. The FED has become a

cheap source of funds, and the FED doesn't like this," said Jones.

In the past, a 3/4-point spread "has been a trigger point," and the FED is likely to consider "another firming move" to boost borrowing costs, he said.

In the past week, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrial stocks, which gained nearly 120 points between February and mid-June, finished at 823.02, down 13.95. The drop came after a 22.26-point decline the week before.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index was off .90 at 53.90 and the American Stock Exchange market value index fell 2.89 to 147.27.

Big board volume averaged 27.64 million shares a day, against 30.89 million the week before.

"We've had a lot of damage done in the past week and a half in the market," said Charles Jensen at Merkin and Co. "Each time the stock market

went up in the face of higher interest rates there was an attempt to rationalize the move as an answer to actions against inflation. That rationale in the past hardly ever worked, and now we're back where we should be."

But William L. Silber, an economist at New York University's School of Business, maintains the market slippage may just be an aberration. "The public is aware that inflation is bad for stock prices," he said in a report. "If monetary restraint can curtail inflation, then the cost in terms of higher short-term interest rates might very well be discounted."

Of the current situation, Mr. Silber said in an interview that "if the FED is making a really convincing fight against inflation by pushing interest rates up, the outlook should be bullish. But people aren't convinced that the fight against inflation is going all that well."

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HIVVER, ANDY? IF YOU'VE GOT A MINUTE I'D LIKE A WORD ABOUT THE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK'S SNOOKER

SURE, RON

MATE O' MINE, DEAR -- JUST GOIN' TO 'AVE A CHAT ABOUT THE MATCH

SIDEBOARD, SECOND DRAWER, W/ THE KNIVES AN' FORKS?

I LIKE A MAN WHO OPENS THE CONVERSATION WITH A BOTTLE-OPENER

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BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
1978 by Chicago Tribune

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♦ 1087643
♦ KJ7
♦ Q4
♦ A8

EAST
♦ Void
♦ AK
♦ 8542
♦ Q6
♦ A952
♦ 10873
♦ K1074
♦ J9653

SOUTH
♦ QJ952
♦ A103
♦ KJ6
♦ Q2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠.

Here is a chance for you to test your declarer play. Cover up the East-West hands with your thumbs and see if you can make four spades after a heart lead.

North has a difficult response to make. The hand really doesn't have enough in high cards to qualify for a jump raise, and a leap to game, despite the wealth of strength in the side suits, is a practical solution to a difficult problem.

When we saw this hand played, declarer played a low heart from dummy at

trick one and captured East's queen with the ace. A diamond to the queen was ducked. West won the diamond continuation and returned a heart. Declarer won in dummy and since he had no quick entry to his hand to discard dummy's club on a high diamond, he was forced to lead a trump, won by East's king.

East shifted to a club, and declarer's queen was topped by the king and ace. When East gained the lead with the ace of trumps, he cashed the jack of clubs for down one. Where did declarer go wrong?

The mistake occurred very early in the play, at the time when more errors are committed than at any other. Have you spotted it?

When West leads a heart at trick one, declarer must play dummy's jack. Whether or not East covers, declarer is assured of a fast reentry to his hand. If East covers, declarer forces out the ace of diamonds and can then cross to the ten of hearts to discard dummy's losing club on the high diamond. If East plays low, the ace of hearts will be declarer's entry back to his hand.

"Waste not, want not" is sound enough advice. But there is a difference between wasting and hoarding, which the successful declarers have learned to overcome.

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Guerrillas murder missionary families in Rhodesia; 13 dead

SALISBURY, June 24 (R). — Thirteen whites -- missionaries and their families, including girls and a month-old baby -- have been killed by black nationalist guerrillas near the Mozambique border, a military spokesman said today.

He said the guerrillas entered a mission near Umtali in eastern Rhodesia last night, rounded up all the black children at a school and slaughtered the entire mission staff.

The mission belonged to the Pentecostal Mission Church, which has its headquarters in Cheltenham, England, a church source said.

The mission, called Elim, contained a black high school for girls and boys with about 250 pupils, the source said.

A military spokesman said about ten guerrillas took part

in the attack, killing three men, two women, seven girls and the baby.

The identities of the dead were not immediately released. The church source said the Elim mission was until nine months ago run by the Anglican Church under the name of Sagle School.

The attack on the mission station was the worst reported in the bloody five-year bush war.

In February, 1977, three Jesuit missionaries and four Dominican sisters were killed at

Musami in northeastern Rhodesia in the previous worst incident of its kind.

Recently missionaries have increasingly become victims of the war.

Since the beginning of this month, two Roman Catholic brothers -- a West German and a Swiss -- two British Salvation Army missionaries and an American Baptist have been killed at their stations. Dozens of mission schools have been forced to close by guerrilla activity.

The Roman Catholics, Salvationists and Baptists all blamed guerrillas for the killings. In the past, the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance has blamed security forces for the deaths of missionaries -- an allegation strongly denied by the Salisbury authorities.

Mobutu offers amnesty to exiled political foes

KINSHASA, June 24 (R). — President Mobutu Sese Seko today offered an amnesty to exiled political foes as part of a programme for domestic reform in Zaire following last month's invasion of Shaba province by Angola-based rebels.

He told a mass rally at Nsele, about 25 miles (40 km.) northeast of here, that he would put the proposal to the ruling Legislative Council.

He said the return of the exiles and refugees -- there are believed to be about 200,000 Lunda tribesmen in Angola alone -- would be under the supervision of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and the Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

President Mobutu said that apart from those in Angola there were refugees in the neighbouring states of Sudan, Rwanda and Burundi, the official AZAP news agency said.

The president also angrily criticised army and national gendarmerie forces who have been extorting money from civilians in random road blocks and elsewhere.

He called on members of the public to report such incidents in an effort to end the abuse.

The speech was President Mobutu's first address to a mass public rally since the invasion of mineral-rich Shaba.

As expected, it contained signs that he was willing to introduce domestic reforms that would satisfy Western countries trying to put together an aid package to help Zaire out of its economic mess.

Internal reconciliation was believed to be among the points sought by the West, especially with the Shaba province Lundas.

However, President Mobutu has all along been insistent that the multi-million dollar aid programme would not be conditional.

During his hour-long speech, given in local Lingala dialect, he repeated accusations that the Soviet Union and Cuba had supported the Shaba insurrection.

President Mobutu returned here yesterday after holding urgent talks with President Bongo of Gabon in Libreville.

Air attack by Rhodesian troops leaves 19 dead, says Mozambique

MAPUTO, Mozambique, June 24 (AP). — Helicopter-borne Rhodesian troops backed by jet fighter-bombers have again raided Mozambique killing 17 refugees and two Belgian nationals, Mozambique announced yesterday.

A communique issued by the general staff of the Mozambique People's Liberation forces said the attack Thursday night was on the agricultural station of Sussundenga in Manica province, about 18 miles from the Rhodesian border.

Rhodesian forces also attacked the Mansangana district where fighting was still in progress, the communique said.

There was no immediate comment from the Rhodesian military command in Salisbury.

The enemy murdered 17 refugees who were in transit to a refugee camp and a Belgian and his wife who were both technicians from the U.N. Food and Agricultural Organisation, the communique said.

The troops also kidnapped a group of men and children who were studying at the experimental station, the statement added.

The communique gave no indication of how many Rhodesian troops were involved in the incursions.

Rhodesia has mounted more than 350 "acts of aggression" since March 1977, Mozambique claims.

The most serious to date was a raid in November last year in which Rhodesian forces said they killed at least 1,200 "armed terrorists" at the headquarters of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) guerrilla headquarters near Chimolimo, formerly Vila Pery.

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Somali guerrillas destroy train on reopened Ethiopian railway

MOGADISHU, June 24 (R). — Somali guerrillas said today they attacked a train on the key Addis Ababa-to-Djibouti railway within a day of its reopening after being shut down for a year by the Ogaden war.

In their bulletin issued here, the guerrillas said they ambushed a train carrying more than 140 Ethiopian soldiers between the railway towns of Adigala and Aysla.

They said they destroyed the train, but did not indicate whether the track was damaged.

The line was blown up in the same area by Somali guerrillas in early June of last year as a prelude to the Ogaden war.

Ethiopian engineers have worked to repair the track since the end of the conventional war in March and the first train completed the stretch between Dire Dawa and Djibouti last Saturday.

The attack on the train appears to be part of a new concerted campaign by the guerrillas, who recently said they had captured the main town in the south of Ogaden, the military base of Gode, which has the vast semi-desert region's only concrete runway.

Officials of the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF), which said it took control of Gode, said their latest reports indicated there was continued fighting in the area, about 200 kilometres (125 miles) from the Somali frontier.

Radio Mogadishu said Ethiopian jets recently attacked five towns and villages between its northern regional capital Hargeisa and the border, killing ten people and injuring 43.

Ethiopia has so far made no comment on the reports from Gode or Hargeisa.

Chile reacts mildly to recall of U.S. Ambassador Landau

WASHINGTON, June 24 (AP). — Chile is downplaying the recall of the U.S. Ambassador from Santiago in protest of alleged delays in responding to questions about the 1976 assassination here of former Chilean Ambassador Orlando Letelier.

The U.S. State Department yesterday, in announcing the recall of Ambassador George Landau, said Chile "has not been forthcoming on important requests" for information.

The case involves the car-bombing assassination of Mr. Letelier, an outspoken critic of Chile's ruling military junta and a former top aide to the late President Salvador Allende.

Mr. Letelier, who was living here in exile, was killed along with a colleague on a Washington street.

Although the recall of Mr. Landau was seen as a strong expression of American displeasure over Chile's attitude, Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos said he thought the action may yield positive results.

Mr. Cubillos, who is here attending a meeting of the Organisation of American States, said Mr. Landau's presence in Washington "will be useful in that it will allow him to explain in detail the information which we have been making available to him lately."

Red Brigades founder sentenced to 15 years

TURIN, Italy, June 24 (AP). — Renato Curcio, the founder and major ideologist of the Red Brigades, Italy's most feared terrorist group, was sentenced yesterday to 15 years in prison.

A jury had deliberated nearly five days in the trial of five Red Brigade members, who were not in court to hear the verdict or the sentences.

Mr. Curcio, a bearded former philosophy student, was convicted of forming an armed band, subversion and political kidnappings.

Other Red Brigade ringleaders -- Pietro Bassi, Pietro Bertolazzi, Alberto Franceschini

and Paolo Maurizio Ferrari -- were sentenced from 13 to 15 years in prison after the three-month trial which the Red Brigades tried to disrupt through a wave of assassinations and intimidations.

Since the trial began in March a total of 11 persons, including former Premier Aldo Moro and his five bodyguards, were shot to death by other Red Brigade comrades.

The verdict was read by presiding judge Guido Barbato, but the defendants remained in their cells, at the nearby Nuove prison, and made it known, through lawyers, they were not interested in the decision by "a court of the regime."

Egypt launches major reclamation project to increase farmland

CAIRO, (AP). — Egypt, a country with 40 million people crowded into a narrow strip of fertile land along the Nile River, has launched a "green revolution" to irrigate the desert in an attempt to feed a population which is expected to reach 100 million by the year 2000.

The green revolution, President Anwar Sadat's rallying cry for agricultural expansion, is designed to increase Egypt's farmland by nearly 50 per cent.

Egypt launched a land reclamation programme in 1954 but it lost momentum in 1967 when the war with Israel slowed an already faltering economy. Few reclamation projects were launched in the past decade.

This year, Egypt set aside 324,000 acres for land reclamation efforts by the government, private companies, community councils and individuals. By the year 2000, a total of 2.8 million acres are to be reclaimed.

Mr. Sadat, in a series of tours of his nation, has been the green revolution's biggest booster -- in nationally televised speeches, in ceremonies to hand out land deeds, in "meet-the-people" talks with farmers.

Today, Egypt counts a total of seven million acres of farmland -- less than three per cent of the whole country -- and even that figure is questionable. It includes one million acres of reclaimed land and six million acres of traditional farmland. But those six million acres have shrunk to five million in the past quarter-century, because while agricultural engineers were busy reclaiming one million acres of new land, one million acres of old land was lost to urban sprawl.

While land reclamation is the government's publicly announced policy, some agricultural experts privately express doubts about its success and cite the many problems: high costs, slow rate of return, difficulty in persuading city dwellers to move to barren lands where they must spend years turning them into productive fields.

The average cost of reclaiming land in the past 24 years was 923 U.S. dollars an acre. Today, the government estimates it will cost \$2,100 an acre and the land will take at least ten years to reach the break-even point. When -- or if -- the new land reaches peak production, it will never have as high a yield as the traditional farmland along the Nile, cultivated since the time

of the pharaohs and nourished by the mud and water of the ancient river.

To finance the cost of irrigation, chemical soil enrichment and building new villages and roads, Egypt must turn to private companies at home, money-lending institutions abroad and foreign investors.

Citing these problems, some agriculture experts suggest that Egypt should concentrate on improving yields in the traditional lands along the Nile instead of trying to reclaim the desert.

Egyptian officials say the cost of improving traditional lands is about \$36 an acre. In addition to being far cheaper than reclaiming new lands, it produces results within one or two years.

"This method -- improving drainage, adding gypsum to correct alkalinity -- may increase the cash value of crops by \$150 an acre," said Dr. Ahmed Al Shabassy, chairman of the Board of directors of the Agriculture Ministry's Executive Authority for Land Improvement Projects.

There is a great debate whether to go into the traditional lands or to go into the desert," he added. "In my opinion, in spite of the fact that concentration on the cultivated lands may be giving very quick results compared with the land reclamation projects, our population increase is so terrific that both programmes should go at the same time parallel."

Government officials say there is no breakdown of the yields for specific crops on new lands and old lands, but both Egyptian and